

REMARKS

Claims in the case are 9 and 14-17, upon entry of this Amendment. No claims have been amended, no claims have been added, and Claims 20-22 and 28-33 have been cancelled without prejudice herein.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants note with appreciation that on page 4 of the final Office Action it is stated that Claims 9 and 14-17 are allowed. Claims 9 and 14-17 are presently the only claims pending in the present case. The issuance of a Notice of Allowance with regard to Claims 9 and 14-17 is respectfully requested.

Anticipation Rejections:

I. Claims 20-22 over Bhusari et al.

Claims 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bhusari et al., Fabrication of Air-Channel Structures for Microfluidic, Microelectromechanical, and Microelectronic Applications, Journal of Microelectromechanical Systems, Vol. 10, No. 3, pp 400-408, September 2001, (Bhusari et al.).

II. Claims 20-22 over Gravesen et al.

Claims 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gravesen et al., Microfluidics - a review, Journal of Micromechanical Microengineering, 3, pp. 168-182, (1993) (Gravesen et al.).

III. Claims 20-22 and 28-33 over Vaughan.

Claims 20-22 and 28-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 2,568,475 (Vaughan).

Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 1795

Application No. 10/686,697

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Attorney Docket No. 5219-061243 (62020-1550)

IV. Claims 20-22 and 28-33 over Srinivasan.

Claims 20-22 and 28-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,334,863 B1 (**Srinivasan**).

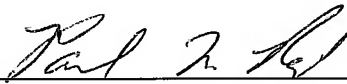
In light of the cancellation of Claims 20-22 and 28-33 without prejudice herein, the anticipation rejections of Claims 20-22 and 28-33 are rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicant's presently pending claims are deemed to define an invention that is unanticipated, unobvious, and hence, patentable. The issuance of a Notice of Allowance with regard to presently pending and allowed Claims 9 and 14-17 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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